



THE RARA E-RAG

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 62

May 2010

NO. 9

"The ins and outs of Ham Radio Deluxe"

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
Vice President, RaRa

It's always bittersweet writing for the May issue; on one hand it's the last program at the firehouse, on the other it means we're welcoming in the summer season. We have a lot of activities planned for you this summer. Beginning with the Hamfest on June 5th, our Family Picnic on July 17th, and new this year; a swap meet on August 21st! Check the club website (www.RochesterHam.com) often for details and updates.

Our next meeting is on May 7th, 2010 7:30 PM at our usual venue the Henrietta Fire Hall, at 3129 E. Henrietta Rd. This is our annual business meeting which requires you, the members, to vote on the Dues rate for next year and elect the new Board of Directors and Officers.

After the business and donuts are done, our program for the evening will be presented by Jim Stefano, W2COP, on using the computer program "Ham Radio Deluxe".

Most modern radios have a serial communications port. This allows the computer in the radio to communicate with external devices like a PC. Ham Radio Deluxe capitalizes on that ability and provides a means for you to use your computer to control your radio. HRD also provides a good interface for operating those digital modes we learned about in March! Imagine if your logbook automatically knew what frequency you're on, and what mode you're using; all you would have to do is enter the call sign of the other party in the QSO. With HRD it does! What more can you ask for?

If you've ever wondered what Ham Radio Deluxe can do for you; Jim Stefano, W2COP will be here to show, and tell, us all about it.

**Spring time is Antenna time:
Have fun - Be safe!**

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The Prez Sez

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI
President, RaRa

Where has the year gone? This is the last article that I will be writing as president which is the perfect time to recap what has happened in the last year. Here are some of the highlights from the past 12 months:

- The hamfest exceeded most of our expectations and got everyone excited for the 2010 hamfest.
- The club improved its insurance coverage at minimal cost.
- The ability to join or renew your membership online from our website.
- An ever improving full color RAG.
- The BOD and officers now have a written procedure/timetable of club business for the fiscal year.
- Posting audio file of general membership meetings to website.
- Delivered 2 sets of ARRL books to 2 public libraries.
- The club has a new mission statement.
- K2JD and N2EH are on LoTW.
- The telephone hotline is now using Google Voice.
- The club directory got a major update thanks to the efforts of Lynn Bisha.
- Loaned badge making machine and hat irons to Webster Schools so they can raise funds for the school club.

The BOD and officers have been busy over the last year and I would like to thank everyone for their efforts and assistance on everything that we have accomplished.

The April membership meeting had a super presentation on keys by our own Ed Gable (K2MP). The presentation was full of pictures and history of common keys and some very unique keys. Keep an eye on the RARA website for the audio and possibly the video of the presentation.

Don't forget to return your postage paid postcard that came with your Directory. The Board of Directors and Officers of the club want to hear from you and we made it easy and free for you to respond. Only 186 cards have been returned so far. Is it possible that over 200 members have not opened the envelope that contains the directory? The other theory is the post office lost 200 post cards in the same way that they lost my directory.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on May 7, 2010. As always the coffee will be hot, the soda will be cold, and the donuts will be fresh!

Art Debruycker, W2YGW Memorial Service

Art's memorial service is Sunday, May 30 at 3 PM at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 26 East Church Street (route 31F) in Fairport - directly across the street from the fire hall - the 2nd church east of the traffic light at rte. 250.

Calendar of Events

- May 7** RaRa Meeting
7:30 PM, Henrietta FD #1
- May 12** RaRa Board of Directors
5:30 PM, RIT
Bldg-17, Room 2110
- May 18** RDXA Meeting
7:30 PM, 1190 Scottsville Rd
Rm 200
- May 21** RRRRA Meeting
8:00 PM, Pittsford Town Hall

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Hamfest 2010 - Help Wanted!

By Len Crellin, KC2PCD

If you were at last year's Hamfest at Barnard, you know how great it was to see all those people enjoying themselves at YOUR Hamfest. That's right, it is an event that is organized and run by fellow members of YOUR club.

The Hamfest committee is busy contacting vendors and clubs, ordering the tent and tables, working with the firemen and caterer to insure the food is as good and reasonably priced as last year and many other "behind the scenes" jobs which will make this year's Hamfest even better than last year.

However, we can't do this alone! Each year we ask you to take ownership of YOUR Hamfest and help out with some of the jobs that must be done. Some jobs are before the fest starts such as lining the flea market and setting up tables and signs, while others are on the day of the event (between 6AM & 2PM) like ticket sellers and flea market organizers. If you can just give 90 minutes it would really help YOUR club's major event of the year to be more successful and carry on the tradition of being one of the finest Hamfests around.

There will be signup sheets at the April and May RARA meetings, but in case you can't be at them and want to help, please let Peter Fournia know at: pfournia@rochester.rr.com

He will be coordinating a list of jobs and times needed and will get back to you, so be sure to give him your best email or phone contact information.

Let's work together since "Many hands make light work." See you at the 2010 Rochester Hamfest on June 5th.



The Rochester Hamfest – Building on a NEW Legacy!

Directory Corrections

By Dick Goslee, KG2I

The Repeater Listings contained a couple of errors. My fat fingers listed the 146.925 repeater as 146.955. That is wrong. The correct numbers are 146.925 out and 146.325 in. Also the output frequency of the ATV repeater was wrong. It should be 910.250Mhz. Sorry for the confusion.

Awards Thoughts

By Dan & Sue Waterstraat, W2DEW & KC2SUE

As usual the main award for the annual meeting will be the deluxe swivel chair for your shack or desk. Additional awards will also be available to the lucky ticket holders.

VE NEWS

Here are the results for the March VE Test session, we have eleven new Technicians, four new Generals and two new Extra class licensees.

We had an Alpha (KC2YAA) and Omega (KC2WZZ) occur at this session, most unusual. Please don't ask about KC2XAA which appears to be the next step beyond KC2WZZ. A few quick searches on the FCC database did not turn up any KC2Xxx licensee's but did reveal KC2Yxx licensee's.

A big thank you to Dave AB2WZ for standing in my place while I was out of town.

Dion D. Barrick	T	KC2WZQ
Patrick M. Church	T	KC2WZR
Justin E. Delmonte	T	KC2WZS
Nathan B. Horn	T	KC2WZT
Stephanie N. Malinowski	T	KC2WZV
Nathaniel J. Pitt	T	KC2WZW
Dennis A. Prentice	T	KC2WZX
Ted P. Sheflin	T	KC2WZY
Daniel J. Stenmark	T	KC2WZZ
Andrew A. Strobel	T	KD8NNE
Christopher C. Wakeley	T	KC2YAA
Carl E. Facer	G	KC2LLT
Christopher R. Hughes	G	KC2WGU
Thomas R. Seibert	G	KC2WFD
Christine C. Soldi	G	N2VWU
Todd E. Heckleman	E	N2GYP
Timothy J. Wright	E	KC2SSO

**RaRa Amateur Radio
License Testing is held on
the 3rd Saturday of each
Month, September through
April.**

**Registration begins at
10:00AM in RIT Building 9,
Room 3139**
[\(click for map\)](#)

**Contact Ken Hall, W2KRH
for space reservations.**

Public Service 2010

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI
RARA Public Service Coordinator

I receive an email from Josh Davis who is the coordinator for the AIDS Rochester Bike Ride. The ham community is committed to helping with the last day of this 5 day event which will take place on Sunday. AIDS Rochester is looking for some hams to help out with the first 4 days. Josh writes: "I would like to see if anyone is interested in volunteering for the 5 day ride August 18 - 22. We would provide all camping, meals and gas for the 5 days. I would like to have a course setter and SAG help. With the complexity of the route that we have it would be a huge help to have you all involved. The course setter job is very difficult and I could see it being much easier with some of the equipment you guys had. We are traveling into remote areas of the Finger Lakes and road navigating is very difficult." Please contact Duane Fregoe if you are interested.

Below is the list of local events that are being coordinated by local hams. Go to www.rochesterham.org and click on "Public Service". A complete listing of events and details on each event are there. Click on the "Sign Up" button and fill in the boxes. Highlight the events you like and click on "Submit". I will receive an email with your information and will reply to you acknowledging that I have received it.

Tour de Cure – Sun, June 13, 2010

MS Bike Ride – Sat & Sun, August 7 & 8, 2010

Walnut Hill Driving Competition – Wed thru Sun, August 11 - 15, 2010

AIDS Rochester Red Ribbon Ride – Sun, August 22, 2010

Rochester Arthritis Foundation Marathon – Sun, September 12, 2010

Barktoberfest: Lollypop Farm – Sat, September 25, 2010

Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta – Sun, September 26, 2010

Jamboree on the Air (BSA) – Sat & Sun, October 16 & 17, 2010

NYS Thruway Pumpkin Patrol – Sat & Sun, October 30 & 31, 2010

FREE

ARRL Licensing Manuals

Are you, or do you know, a young person interested in getting their TECH license?

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By Duane Fregoe, K2SI

A small group of RARA members got together in early April to discuss how to grow the hobby and keep it fun for the youth and the new technicians. After 3½ hours of lively discussion there were many ideas tossed around and what follows is a short list of that discussion.

- Need to assist in the creation of more school clubs.
- Consider periodic youth/newbie focused meetings either separately or in conjunction with existing RARA meetings.
- Hold a youth seminar at the hamfest followed by a hands-on activity.
- Find out what new techs want and need to stay active in the hobby.
- One day, new ham boot camps with multiple training sessions on topics that the new tech can use immediately.
- Assist young hams by making it easier for them to find other young hams.
- Give young hams the opportunity to participate in public service.

This is only a sampling of what was discussed. The group is currently on an information gathering mission before we meet again. A list of new technicians is being gathered from the VE testing sessions.

We would like to pull together a similar list of college, high school, and grade school students that have their ham ticket. This is where we need your help. If your son, daughter, grandson, or granddaughter has a ham license and would be interested in youth specific programs and activities we want to record their name and callsign.

We are also looking for licensed hams that work for school districts in Monroe County and the surrounding counties. We feel that the school club has a better chance of starting and continuing if the advisor is from within the school system. If you are a ham working in a school district we would like to hear from you and get a better understanding of how we may help.

All information can be sent to rochesterham@gmail.com where I will be gathering this information.



Help Wanted

Technical skills needed to remedy tracking problem on my Collins 51J-4. I have manual, schematic. Will bring to you.

Contact jgolden577@rochester.rr.com

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By-Laws Change Proposal

The following is the proposal that was approved by the Board of Directors at the March 2010 meeting to be presented in April and voted on in May by the general membership:

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS.

Section A. **Officers, Election and Term.**

There shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer. The membership shall elect these officers at their Annual Meeting. The president shall be nominated from the ranks of the existing board of directors as defined in Article III-A. Each officer shall be a full member of the corporation and shall be elected to hold office for a term of one year, or until his successor has been elected or appointed and qualified.

(Proposed addition)

The elected term of the vice president, secretary or treasurer is limited to three consecutive terms.

The elected term of the President is limited to two consecutive terms.

If this change is approved by your vote, there will be term limits for all officers. If the additional wording is not approved, we will continue to have unlimited terms for all officers except the President who is limited to two consecutive terms by the existing wording. Please come to the May meeting to vote your opinion.

March 29, 2010

Mr. Kenneth Hall
Secretary, Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 93333
Rochester, NY 14692-8333

Dear Ken and members of RaRa,

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Lynn Bisha, W2BSN and Lloyd Caves, N2PU we are pleased to present to you the slate of potential Officers and Board of Directors for election to the 2010-2011 season of RaRa.

President: Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
Vice Pres: Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC
Secretary: Kenneth Hall, W2KRH
Treasurer: Richard Goslee, KG2I
Directors: Duane Fregoe, K2SI
James DiTucci, N2IXD
William Kasperkoski, WB2SXY
Leonard Crellin, KC2PCD
Rosario Mazzola, KC2LOC

This completes the work of the Nominating Committee. We would like to thank all of the candidates for allowing us to place their names in the running for office.

73,
Lynn Bisha and Lloyd Caves

Note: Additional nominations for Officers and Directors may be made from the floor at the annual meeting on May 7, 2010.

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**Coming
June 5th 2010**

The following RARA members have been nominated for election at the annual meeting. Biographies of each of the candidates are shown below.

President:

Frank Schramm, WB2PYD

I think most of you know me by now so I can keep this short. I have been licensed since 1977 and I'm an active HF DX chaser. I enjoy operating both voice and digital modes; especially when my wife Lisa, KC2VHT, and/or daughter Jen, KD2JEN, are in the shack with me.

To-date, I have served you as your Vice-President, and President; I'm responsible for redesigning and maintaining the club website; in collaboration with our RAG editor (KG2I) I designed and produce the monthly e-RAG publication; I teach the General Class licensing course; and last but by no means least, I lead the team that produces your Hamfest.

As I hope I have proven by my actions, my philosophy towards this club is "just roll up my sleeves do it". I'm here to serve you, the members of RaRa, by your will in whatever position you deem necessary.

Please feel free to contact me at any time: WB2PYD@ARRL.net

Vice-President:

Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC

My name is Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC, and I am seeking the position of Vice President of RARA for the upcoming year. I recently retired from General Motors and Delphi after 36 years of service, seventeen of which were in the Detroit area.

I was first licensed as a ham radio operator in 1962 at the age of 12. I became interested in ham radio after building my first crystal radio and hearing neighborhood hams operating AM on 160 meters. I soon became an SWL, and then earned my novice call, WN2GHC, 48 years ago.

During these 48 years of operating, I have used a variety of amateur radio modes, including AM, CW, DSB, SSB, FM, RTTY, PSK31, OLIVIA, etc. My ham radio activities include being an active member of RARA, ARES/RACES, S.A.T.E.R.N., ARMY MARS (AAR2BO), SKYWARN, FISTS, SKCC, QCWA, NAQCC, QRP, ARRL, RRRA, WDN, ECARS and others. I enjoy operating CW, SSB, DXing, operating digital modes, and performing ham radio public service activities, volunteering for Pumpkin Patrol, Rochester Arthritis Foundation Marathon, AIDS Rochester Red Ribbon Ride, Tour de Cure, etc.

I would be deeply honored to serve you as your Vice President of RARA in the upcoming year.

Secretary:

Ken Hall, W2KRH

Born in Buffalo and raised in Orchard Park joined the Army in 1963 was trained in electronics, served in Turkey, Japan, Vietnam and CONUS, discharged in 1970 with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

Began working for a small systems company, STA, Inc., in 1970 working on an automated order wire ground station system for the Intelsat Telecommunications satellite system. In 1971 went to work for Xerox Corporation where for the next 35 years I held a number of positions beginning as a Technical Representative and ending as a Technical Specialist Product Manager.

I have had a lifelong interest in Amateur Radio and was finally licensed in 1998 as KC2DTT and joined the Xerox Amateur Radio Club where I was elected President. In 2007 I upgraded to General and then Extra and became a VE with Raj Dewan and am now the Team Leader. I am also a member of TAPR, AMSAT, SIARC and Ontario County RACES. I am interested in Software Defined Radios and digital modes of communication.

Additionally I have been the Secretary of my Masonic lodge for 11 of the past 13 years.

As Secretary I will represent the members of the club to the best of my ability and will seek input from its members. Thank you for your vote.

Treasurer:**Dick Goslee, KG2I**

I have been a Ham for 52 years now. I received my Novice call KN2VCZ in April of 1957 and advanced to Technician (K2VCZ) and then General in 1958. It took a while (I was busy) till I received my Advanced license in 1977 and finally my Extra license in 2001. After defeating cancer in late 2003 I decided it was time for a new call and in January of 2004 I received my current call, KG2I. Along the way I served on the BOD of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association and as President of my High School radio club and my college club at RIT. While in college at RIT I also served as President of the National Professional Photographic Fraternity, Delta Lambda Epsilon.

I have been a member of RARA since 1983. I was elected to the BOD in 1984 and I was appointed as Chairman of the Finance Committee. In 1985 I was elected Vice-President and then became President in 1986. Following my term as President I was elected as Treasurer in 1987 and served in that capacity until 2004 when I retired from the office. In 2005 I was elected President for the 2nd time.

Among my other jobs in RARA were a 6 year stint teaching the Technician and a couple of years teaching the Advanced class. In 1986 I took over the operation of the RARA membership/directory and moved it from a TRS-80 to a modern IBM style PC. I have maintained the database since that time and have also served as the Editor of the RARA Directory since 1986. When Ray Pickens, WA2MYG passed away in 2004 I became the Editor of the RARA RAG and continue in that capacity today. I also spent many years working with the famous "K2JD Engraving Team", and as a member of the RARA VE Team.

With my love of finance and in working for RARA I had decided to run again for Treasurer in 2007 and I have been nominated again for the 2010-2011 year.

I am involved in many activities with RARA because I believe in my heart that you only get out of an organization what you put in. To truly enjoy an organization you must get involved in the day to day operations.

My wife of 45 years, Sue is licensed as N2HKA and my daughters Karen, KB2CHE and Cathie, KB2ESZ are also licensed hams.

Board of Directors:**Jim DiTucci, N2IXD**

In the last few years I have been involved in many facets of Amateur Radio. They include: APRS, SKYWARN, ARRL DXCC, National Traffic System–Western District Net, Wi-Fi, PSK-31, Field Day, VoIP, AMSAT, ARISS, ARES/RACES, EMCOMM, WinLink-2000, ICS, InfraGard, Wireless Literacy, etc. Above all, I have never lost my passion for experimenting. Corner me on any of these topics and I will be more than eager to talk your ear off.

This past year your officers and directors made some hard decisions, decisions to protect the integrity, rich heritage and future of our club. They are a hard working group of dedicated and passionate Hams who have given many hours in service to our club. I am proud to have served with them and stand with them in support of their efforts.

What will the future bring? It's clear to me that the future of our hobby rests in our hands and that it hinges on increasing participation and growing our membership – in Amateur Radio, in RARA and especially in growing youth membership. While other clubs in communities our size struggle to exist, struggle to preserve their shrinking membership, RARA is strong and viable and positioned to continue to be a flagship club, leading the way for amateur radio in the 21st century. As a past president, life member, and sitting director of RARA, I would like to think that I had a small part in that.

Len Crellin, KC2PCD

My name is Len Crellin, KC2PCD, and I became a ham in January 2006. I used the license classes presented by our club and worked my way up to Extra class. Just like the classes, this hobby provides each member with the chance to be a RARA member at different levels. Some are happy to come to meetings and enjoy the presentations and socialize with friends. Some are involved with Public Service. Some take on the role of coordinator or chairperson of various committees. Some become directors or officers of the club.

I decided to help out the club and take over for Larry Wallnau as Media Communications Coordinator two years ago and have continued in that role to the present insuring that broadcast, print and internet sites are given copies of my Press Releases announcing our license classes, testing, meetings and other events we participate in. I decided that year to also take on another position as a Director. You supported this decision and I have served two years representing your interests.

In addition, I agreed to serve on the new Hamfest committee and have acted as the 2009 Hamfest Contact Coordinator making sure vendors and clubs were given applications in a timely manner. For 2010, I again am part of the Hamfest Committee and am the Vendor Relations Manager contacting and coordinating all the vendors who will be at the fest.

I participated in four public service events last year and strongly advise all members to help out with at least one. It gives us a chance to shine in our talents as radio operators and provides the chance to discuss the hobby with non-hams that you may meet at these events!

Finally, I continue to use my 35 years of Photo instruction experience to record many images that happen at RARA activities for our website photo gallery which I also manage. It has been my pleasure serving in these positions and with your support, I would enjoy continuing on into 2010-2011.

Ross Mazzola, KC2LOC

My first encounter with amateur radio was as a Boy Scout. Back in the 70's my scoutmaster, Frank Lisuzzo WA2NQS, would sometimes bring his radio along with him on campouts. I found it fascinating that he could contact people all over the world right from our campsite.

Like many people, life got in the way of me pursuing this interest until almost 30 years later when my curiosity in amateur radio would be rekindled. While on vacation in North Carolina with some friends, we visited the home of Bob Fox KB2XI. Bob talked to me about the hobby and told me about the new licensing requirements. So I decided to give the test a try and in June of 2003 I earned my Technician class license. Over the course of the next year, with the help of Steve Ziblut WA2EKL, Ed Martin KC2JQV and the RARA licensing classes, I upgraded to Amateur Extra class.

Today, I enjoy using my radio skills in a public service role as a member of ARES/RACES and Army Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS). It would be a privilege and an honor to give a little back to this fine organization and serve as a member of your Board of Directors.

Duane Fregoe, K2SI

Over the past 3 years it has been fun helping to shape the club as a director, vice-president, and president. During this time frame many new things have come along to improve the club. The biggest change was the new and well received hamfest. Our members can now read a full color RAG and renew their membership online. As with any term in office there is always some unfinished business hence the reason I still wish to continue as a director.

On the hobby side of things I enjoy contesting as a "little pistol" using SSB and RTTY. Contests are a great way to fatten the logbook and measure the capabilities of your station. I am an active user of both LoTW and eQSL. In 2009 got my WAS RTTY using LoTW. In January 2010 I achieved DXCC mixed. I am an active member of the VE testing team and belong to RDXA and the ARES/RACES group. I am also the Public Service Coordinator for the club and enjoy working the biking events.

Outside of Ham Radio I am a Senior Project Manager for LeChase Construction and have been there 25 years. My wife and my 2 boys enjoy camping during the summer in our 25' condo on wheels. In 1997 I was appointed to the Town of Ogden Zoning Board and have been Chairman since 2000.

I have enjoyed my term as President. I would like to stay involved as a director and ask for your support.

Bill Kasperkosli, WB2SXY

After years as an SWL, I earned my first ham license in 1964, before earning my Extra license. I used my FCC Commercial License in commercial TV and radio. In the military I was stationed at an educational TV facility, and then overseas as the Training NCO for my USARV unit. At Kodak's Elmgrove Plant, I ran the commercial 2-way radio, repeater and pager facility. I worked at that facility's network operations control center, welding laser, copier and special electronics servicing areas. I hold a CET rating and worked as a network and microwave engineer for an ISP, and as a Unix systems administrator and programmer.

I have served RARA as a license class instructor, Secretary, Vice-President and President. I hold a management BS degree from Roberts Wesleyan College. I have worked over ten years as Net control on the Monroe County FM Net, and several years in traffic handling, the K2RRA Hamfest Talk-in, walk-a-thons, Scout JOTAs, Skywarn, Special Event and contest stations.

I belong to the ARRL, other local organizations, and serve on the ARES Board of Directors. I built up emergency experience by volunteering several years as an ambulance dispatcher and held a basic EMT rating.

ARES News

By Jim DiTucci, N2IXD

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross, 50 Prince St. We do not meet during the months of July, August, and December. This month the ARES Meeting will be held on: Thursday, May 27, 2010 at 7:00PM

ARES / RACES members and anyone interested are welcome to attend.

www.monroecountymcomm.org

ARES NET: Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month, on the 146.61 Mhz. (-) 110.9 Hz pl repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

Help Wanted - Webster Central ARC

By Norm Turner, W2NWT

The Webster Central Amateur Radio Club is taking on a number of fund raising events in order to improve the radio shack at Webster Thomas High School. We are involved with a rather unique fund raiser which is ongoing at one of Webster's newest businesses. We have an account set up at the Nickelback Bottle and Can Return store at 696 Ridge road in Webster. Anyone can return bottles and cans to this location and tell the attendant that the proceeds of the bottle return should be donated to the Webster Central Amateur Radio Club and they will keep track and send us a check once a month that will be deposited in our school account for use to purchase supplies, equipment, and needs of the club . It is a painless and easy way to make a contribution to our club.

We also will be taking on the responsibility of engraving badges and signs for amateurs to purchase at the Rochester Hamfest. We have a very small club and no experience in engraving badges and signs, so we are asking for volunteers to assist us in manning the booth at the hamfest. Anyone that is interested please respond to nwturner@frontiernet.net via e-mail. Thanks to RARA for their support to our club.

RaRa Club LOGO Items





Don't feel left out- get your RaRa logo items today!

<http://www.rochesterham.org/logo.htm>



RaRa Hotline
(585) 210-8910
24 Hours a Day

	<p>W2KRH For information contact: ken@chairmkr.com Windsor Chairs handmade in the 18th Century manner by a craftsman trained at The Windsor Institute.</p>	
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RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago: May, 1990

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RaRa Historian



This issue promised an unusual program topic for RaRa members already used to a varied array of presenters. The Term "Bio-Medical Assistance" has probably never appeared in Rag print before, but here it was introducing Chuck Kinsey, a Biomechanical Assistance Program Coordinator at the Monroe Developmental Center. Chuck spoke on how electromechanical equipment is being used to help the handicapped.

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, wrote encouraging local support of the 1990 Hamfest. Ed reported that indoor commercial booth space is pushing the 100 mark. Bob, WE2T, writing for the RDXA, invited people to their next meeting with the topic "how to work thru a Pile-Up" and other topics. The 1990 Public Events Calendar had 20 events listed. Twelve of those listed do not exist today.

In bolded type, on the front cover, was the not to be missed announcement of RaRa's Annual business meeting and election of officers. The nominating committee consisted of Dave Payne KA2J, Lloyd Caves WB2EFU and Gil Chapin WB2UTI. Their slate was: President Neal Eckhardt WB2EKP, VP Pete Secrist WB2SUN, Secretary Bernard Agins KD2CU and for Treasurer Dick Goslee K2VCZ. Nominated to the Board of Directors were: Keith Freeberg N2BEL, Roger Harnaart WB2BWQ, Bob Hobday N2EVG, Ed Holdsworth N2EH, Ron Nelson KA2GLG, John Schooley K2NC and Bud Young WA2UGE. Then, as now, a biography on each person nominated was published in the Rag.

With regret it was reported that Robert Craig, KE2LF, was reported as a Silent Key. From the Want Ads you could buy a 40 foot Rohn 25 tower, with a split level home attached, from Wally Kincaid, W2PG. A new commercial advertiser was Patrick Moyer, N2AIW, Attorney & Counselor-at-Law.

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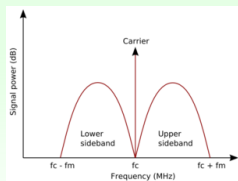
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Sidebands: Amateur Radio in the News

By Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY

ARRL Signs MoU with Red Cross. The ARRL has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the American Red Cross. The Red Cross requires the completion of a criminal background check to participate in Red Cross activities and provides a process by which a volunteer may have a criminal background check performed at no cost to the volunteer. According to the MoU, the Red Cross has agreed to accept an alternative process: ARRL volunteers may arrange, at their own initiative and expense, to have the criminal background check performed by a state or local law enforcement agency. The Red Cross also has agreed that ARRL volunteers shall not be asked or required to consent to credit checks, mode of living investigations or investigative consumer reports in order to provide a communications function. The ARRL and the Red Cross encourage interested volunteers in their respective organizations to become members and to participate in the activities of the other organization. ARRL volunteers should be aware that if they wish to become Red Cross volunteers, they may be required to consent to additional background checks in accordance with Red Cross policy that may include credit checks, mode of living investigations or investigative consumer reports. [More details at <http://tinyurl.com/yd8ctjl>]. **The ARRL Letter**

New ARRL Website. The ARRL is on the verge of launching its improved website. According to ARRL Chief Operating Officer, Harold Kramer, WJ1B, the League is currently finishing the final pre-launch adjustments and testing the new Web site. "This launch has been a longer than anticipated process for all of us," Kramer said, "but we have learned a lot during the past two years as we conducted research about what people want from the ARRL Web site. We created a new architecture and navigation scheme to meet those needs and we implemented a contemporary new design. After that, we updated our current Web content and created lots of brand new content, including multimedia. We then began integrating the incredibly complicated functionality, e-commerce, advertising and database connections from the current Web to the new Web site. It has been a lot of work, and while it is disappointing that we are not out the door quite yet, we are now in the home stretch." The plan was to launch it by April 12 but various issues and bugs have apparently delayed its introduction. **The ARRL Letter**

Altair Inventor Dies. Although not directly related to ham radio, but I'll bet many of you have enjoyed a dual interest in amateur radio and computer science/technology over the years. If so, you will want to take note of the following. Dr. H. Edward Roberts, the inventor of the Altair 8800 personal computer died at age 68. The Altair was one of the first PCs for home computer hobbyists. It was an affordable kit that provided many with an introduction to personal computing and experimentation. The Altair was produced by Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems, the company Roberts founded. This early PC looked nothing like today's computers. It was a box with lots of switches and blinking lights – no keyboard or monitor. It caught the attention of two young men, Bill Gates and Paul Allen, who convinced Roberts is give them a chance to write software for the Altair. And so the humble beginnings of Microsoft were tied to the humble Altair 8800 computer. Roberts received his degree in electrical engineering from Oklahoma State University. He sold his company in 1977 and received a medical degree in 1986. **The Washington Post**

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Ham Radio Plays Role in Rescue. On Sunday, March 28 – a day with a lot of rain, wind, sleet and, fog – John Oakberg, NK4N, of Sevierville, Tennessee, went out hiking in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park near Mt LeConte. When he was about 1 mile up from Alum Cave Bluff, he came across Judy Potter, 57, of Atlanta who had broken her ankle while on the trail. Oakberg reached for his cell phone to call 911, but there was no coverage available. He then reached for his HT and put out a call to any amateur radio operators who may be listening on nearby VHF 2 meter repeaters. Scott Wyrick, KD4CWB, of Seymour, Tennessee, told the ARRL that he was the first to respond to Oakberg's call. After he obtained the necessary information, Wyrick called the National Park Service dispatcher, requesting that they send a rescue team. "John's signal was noisy into the machines, but two other stations – Dean Webb, N4NLT, and Cleve Hayes, KB4UAL – were able to copy him on the input frequencies," he told the ARRL. Wyrick lives in Sevier County, the same county where the National Park is located. Wyrick told the ARRL that the rescue team was able to reach Potter after a few hours, around 2 PM. They carried her to safety several miles down the mountainside, reaching the staging area set up in the parking lot at the base of the mountain approximately three hours later. [For details, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ykm9lzc>] **The ARRL Letter**

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"Ham Radio Growing in the Age of Twitter". That was not the title of a recent article in **QST**. Nor was it a prank from an April Fool's Day headline. It was the recent topic of a story on National Public Radio's popular *All Things Considered*. The report explains that although blogs and stories have been sounding the death knell of ham radio, something akin to the fate of photographic film and cassette tapes, the number of licensed ham radio operators has actually increased 60% since 1981 in the United States. To read the entire transcript or to listen to the story, go to the NPR website at <http://tinyurl.com/y9tb6zd>. It is also accompanied by a photograph of a vintage ham radio shack. The story aired April 5 on member station KWMU and NPR affiliates, including our own WXXI.



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PUBLISHED BY
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Summer e-Rag Deadline Jun 10, 2010

